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**FACSIMILE**

Date: April 26, 2002  
Number of pages  
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To:  
**Tech Center 3700  
Group Art Unit 3761**

Your Ref: 09/680,465  
Phone:  
Fax No. (703) 872-9302

From:  
**Karl G. Hanson**

Our Ref: 48317US028  
Phone: (651) 736-7776  
Fax No. (651) 736-3833

Attached are the following:  
1. Amendment  
2. Affidavit of David M. Castiglione  
3. Declaration of Robert Betts  
4. Declaration of John L. Bowers  
5. Affidavit of Frank J. Fabin

**Remarks:**

le/Pb  
B. Webb  
4/30/02



Case No.: 48317US028

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: JAPUNTICH, DANIEL A.

Application No.: 09/680465

Group Art Unit: 3761

Filed: October 6, 2000

Examiner: Aaron J. Lewis

Title: FIBROUS FILTRATION FACE MASK HAVING A NEW  
UNIDIRECTIONAL FLUID VALVEAMENDMENTCommissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

## CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

To Fax No.: 703-872-9302  
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent  
and Trademark Office on:

April 26, 2002  
Date

Signed by: Susan M. Dacko

Dear Sir:

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Office Action mailed January 28, 2002. Please amend this application as set forth below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 33 as follows:

- Susan M. Dacko*
33. A filtering face mask that comprises:
- (a) a mask body that is adapted to fit over the nose and mouth of a wearer; and
  - (b) an exhalation valve that is positioned on the mask body substantially opposite to a wearer's mouth, the exhalation valve comprising:
    - (1) a valve seat that comprises:
      - (i) a seal surface;
      - (ii) an orifice that is circumscribed by the seal surface; and
      - (iii) cross members that extend across the orifice to create a plurality of openings within the orifice; and
    - (2) a single flexible flap that has a fixed portion and only one free portion and first and second opposing ends, the first end of the single flexible flap being associated with the fixed portion of the flap so as to remain at rest during an exhalation, and the